

Ser. No. 09/207,361  
Internal Docket No. PD970090

**Remarks/Arguments**

Claims 1-3 and 6-10 are pending. Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to more clearly and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as his invention. No new matter is believed to be added by the present amendment.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended to specify that the information means is connected with the optical scanning device to initialize the magneto-optical recording medium only in a region upstream of a track to be written directly before the recording of new information or data. This means that for continuous recording or simultaneous reproduction of information of data the erasure region is small.

Support for the amended claims is provided in the specification as filed in, for example, page, 4, lines 9-10; page 4, lines 28-35; page 6, line 29 - page 7, line 9; page 8, lines 4-10; page 8, lines 16-22; page 8, line 31 - page 9, line 3, and Figures 1 and 2.

**Rejection of claims 1-3 and 6-9 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Maeda et al (US Pat No 6212136)**

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature mentioned above. Applicant submit that Maeda et al. fails to disclose or suggest the newly added limitations of claim 1, and thus, claim 1, and claims 2-3 and 6-9, which depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Maeda et al.

**Rejection of claim 10 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maeda et al (US Pat No 6212136) in view of Kamioka (US Pat No 5493548)**


Claim 10 has been amended to recite the feature mentioned above. In view of the amendment, applicant submits that Maeda fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of amended claim 10. Kamioka is cited as teaching a device having two optical scanning devices for simultaneously recording and reproducing data. However, even assuming arguendo that Kamioka teaches such a feature, Kamioka still fails to cure the defect of Maeda as applied to amended claim 10.

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Thus, applicants submit that amended claim 10 is patentably distinguishable over the combination of Maeda and Kamioka.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Linda Tindall